

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: UTILICORP UNITED INC.	DOCKET NO. WRU-99-47-225
-------------------------------------	--------------------------

ORDER REQUIRING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND REPORT

(Issued November 19, 1999)

On October 27, 1999, UtiliCorp United Inc. (UtiliCorp) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) an application for waiver of IOWA CODE §§ 476.76 and 476.77 (1999) and IOWA ADMIN. CODE 199-chapter 32 (1999), the reorganization statutes and rules. UtiliCorp plans to merge Empire District Electric Company, an electric utility with 143,000 customers doing business in Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, and Oklahoma, with and into UtiliCorp. UtiliCorp will be the surviving corporation.

The Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed a conditional objection and response on November 1, 1999. Consumer Advocate said it needed to conduct discovery to ascertain whether the application for waiver should be granted. Consumer Advocate asked the Board to hold this matter in abeyance until discovery is completed.

Consumer Advocate will not be able to complete its discovery until UtiliCorp files for regulatory approval in Missouri. UtiliCorp will likely file for Missouri approval later in November. The Board will therefore not act on the waiver request at this time and will direct UtiliCorp to file copies of the Missouri filing in this docket. In addition,

if Consumer Advocate has not notified the Board of its position in this proceeding by December 15, 1999, the parties will be required on or before that date to file a joint report detailing the status of the Missouri filing and Consumer Advocate's review thereof.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. UtiliCorp United Inc. shall file with the Board copies of the merger filing that is to be made with the Missouri Public Service Commission.

2. If Consumer Advocate has not notified the Board of its position in this proceeding by December 15, 1999, UtiliCorp and Consumer Advocate shall file on or before that date a joint report detailing the status of the Missouri filing and Consumer Advocate's review thereof.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr.
Executive Secretary

/s/ Diane Munns

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 19th day of November, 1999.